

CLAIMS

We claim:

1 ^{sub} 1. A method for handling browser requests for more than one data
2 service with a personal proxy program, said method comprising:
3 accessing a browser's Internet settings;
4 storing said browser's Internet settings;
5 setting said browser to access said personal proxy program;
6 accepting in said personal proxy program a request from said Internet browser;
7 selecting a handler to handle said request; and
8 directing said request to said handler.

1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein directing said request to said
2 handler comprises directing said request to the Internet using said Internet settings if said
3 the Internet should handle said request.

1 3. The method of claim 1 wherein directing said request to said
2 handler comprises directing said request to a second program running on a computer
3 system that is running said personal proxy program.

1 4. The method of claim 3 wherein said second program comprises a
2 local cache server if said local cache server should handle said request.

1 9. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein said first request handler
2 comprises directing said request to a second program running on a computer system that
3 is running said personal proxy program.

1 10. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein said first request handler
2 comprises a local cache server.

1 11. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein said first request handler
2 comprises an external data appliance device.

1 12. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein said external data appliance
2 device receives data from a data broadcast network.

1 13. A method for handling browser requests from a browser program
2 for more than one data service with a personal proxy program, said method comprising:
3 accessing an original browser autoconfig file used by said browser program;
4 creating a modified autoconfig file from said original browser autoconfig file;
5 instructing said browser program to access said modified autoconfig file;
6 accepting in said personal proxy program a request from said browser program;

7 selecting a handler to handle said request; and
8 directing said request to said handler.

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1 14. The method of claim 13 wherein directing said modified
2 autoconfig file directs requests to said personal proxy program.

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